

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 6 have been canceled without prejudice.

Please replace claim 7 as follows.

1 ~~7.~~ (Amended) A shielding device for connection strips for telecommunications and data engineering applications, the shielding device comprising:

a plurality of shielding plates;

5 at least one base rail, said shielding plates and said base rail being integrally formed from a metal sheet with each shielding plate connected to the base rail via a web narrower than said shielding plates, each of said said shielding plates being arranged rotated through approximately 90° with respect to the base rail.

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(Claim 8 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows:)

2 ~~8.~~ A shielding device as claimed in claim ~~7~~<sup>1</sup>, wherein spacings between adjacent shielding plates may be varied by providing folds in the base rail.

(Please replace claim 9 as follows.)

3 ~~9.~~ (Amended) A process of producing a shielding device for connection strips in telecommunications and data engineering applications, the process comprising the steps of:

providing a metal sheet;

5 forming a number of shielding plates, a base rail supporting the shielding plates, and webs connecting the respective shielding plates to the base rail integrally from the metal sheet, said webs being formed narrower than said shielding plates;

subsequently rotating the shielding plates in the region of the webs through approximately 90° with respect to the base rail.

(Claim 10 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows: )

4 ~~10~~. The process as claimed in claim ~~9~~<sup>3</sup>, wherein a spacing between adjacent shielding plates may be changed by folding the base rail in a region between said adjacent shielding plates.

(Claim 11 has not been changed by this Amendment and remains as follows: )

BI 5 ~~11~~. The process according to claim ~~9~~<sup>3</sup>, further comprising the steps of:

disposing said base rail and said integrally formed shielding plates rotated through 90° with respect to said base rail as shielding inside a connection strip; and

5 using the connection strip with said base rail and said integrally formed shielding plates rotated through 90° with respect to said base rail for high transmission rates in telecommunications and data transmission applications.

(Please replace claim 12 as follows.)

6 ~~12~~. (Amended) A connection strip, comprising:  
a plastic housing;

insulation-piercing terminal contact elements arranged in said plastic housing;  
shielding plates arranged between said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements;

5 and

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at least one base rail connected to said shielding plates, said shielding plates and said  
base rail being integrally formed from a metal sheet with each shielding plate being connected  
to said base rail via a web and being arranged rotated approximately 90° with respect to said  
base rail.

Please add the following new claims.

7  
~~13.~~ (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim ~~12~~<sup>6</sup>, wherein:

said shielding plates are spaced from said insulation-piercing terminal contact elements.

8  
~~14.~~ (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim ~~12~~<sup>6</sup>, wherein:

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said shielding plates are electrically insulated from said insulation-piercing terminal  
contact elements.

9  
~~15.~~ (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim ~~12~~<sup>6</sup>, wherein:

said web includes a substantially 90 degree twist;

said shielding plates and said base rail are substantially flat.

10 ~~16~~ (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim ~~12~~<sup>6</sup>, wherein:  
a width of said web is narrower than a width of said shielding plates.

11 ~~17~~ (New) A connection strip in accordance with claim ~~12~~<sup>6</sup>, wherein:  
one end of each of said webs is connected to said base rail and is substantially parallel  
with said base rail plane;  
another end of each of said webs is connected to said shielding plate and is substantially  
5 parallel with said plane of said shielding plate.

B2 12 ~~18~~ (New) A shielding device for electrical connectors, the shielding device  
comprising:

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a base rail arranged in a base rail plane;  
a plurality of webs extending from said base rail;  
5 a plurality of shielding plates extending from said webs, each of said shielding plates  
being arranged in a plane substantially perpendicular to said base rail plane, said shielding  
plates having a width wider than a width of said webs.

13 ~~19~~ (New) A shielding device in accordance with claim ~~18~~<sup>12</sup>, wherein:  
said webs include a sheet type ~~material~~<sup>C</sup> with a substantially 90 degree twist.